



QUICKIES...QUICKIES...QUICKIES...QUICKIES...QUICKIES...

BRIDGET Jones star **Renee Zellweger** (right) has managed to rebuild a friendship with ex-lover **Jack White**. She said of the **White Stripes** frontman: "Life doesn't always go the way you planned but Jack and I are close again." Let's hope he's no **Daniel Cleaver**.



OSCAR-winning actress **Nicole Kidman** (right) has taken up cooking lessons – to remind her to eat. A friend of the star revealed: "Nicole is so busy she often forgets to eat so she decided to get more inspired by food. She's learning how to bake and everything." Sounds a bit Stepfordesque to us.



PARIS Hilton's mum is trying to turn her daughter into a highbrow star – by getting her onto the cover of US hard-hitting titles *Newsweek* and *Time*. Strangely both publications have decided to turn down the scantily-clad heiress...

PAMMIE ARE



Kate's big roll

ISN'T it difficult to accessorise, girls? Is it sparkly shoes, chandelier earrings – or a packet of tobacco? It's the latter if you're **Kate Winslet** hosting Saturday Night Live in New York. But it's nice she's still a game girl, despite hitting the big time. Smokin'.

Picture: GOFFIN.COM

IF you're chavvy and you know it clap your hands... around **Jennifer Ellison** if you're her boyfriend **Tony Richardson**. Tono couldn't keep his hands off the gorgeous Chicago star as they partied at the Embassy club on Saturday night. And while their constant PDAs might have been too much for other cynical club-goers, we're pleased to see the lovers going strong after all their troubles. And we, like, really mean that.

Geri has a Max factor

Picture: NIGGS-KATIE/EAGLE

WELCOME to Planet **Geri Halliwell**. These days, everybody else seems to revolve around her. Take **Max Beesley**. The actor was reduced to being a stooge for a woman most famous for her yo-yo weight. She got her pal to try to head off the paparazzi during a night out – yet she didn't mind when they finally got their snaps.



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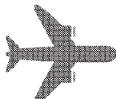
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Express Star Charts



SOAPER STAR: Suranne

SURANNE Jones proves she's Streets ahead of everyone in soapland by picking up best actress gong at the National Television Awards. It was a double success for Corrie as Sam Aston picked up the newcomer gong for his role as Chesney Brown. Meanwhile Matt Lucas and David Walliams won best comedy award for Little Britain. **Our OK! Celebrity Chart** is based on stars' coverage in Express newspapers – your Daily Star, our sister papers the Daily Express and Sunday Express – and **OK!**, Britain's best celebrity magazine. It's THE guide to who's hot and who's not that's got everyone talking.

TOP 40 ALBUMS



1 (1) GREATEST HITS	Robbie Williams
2 (2) 10 YEARS OF HITS	Ronan Keating
3 (3) STARDUST – THE GREAT AMERICAN – VOL III	Rod Stewart
4 (4) SONGS ABOUT JANE	Maroon 5
5 (5) SCISSOR SISTERS	Scissor Sisters
6 (-) BEST OF	Def Leppard
7 (-) SOMETHING'S GOING ON	Cliff Richard
8 (-) ONCE MORE WITH FEELING – SINGLES	Placebo
9 (8) AMERICAN IDIOT	Green Day
10 (-) AMORE MUSICA	Russell Watson
11 (13) GOLDDIGGERS HEADNODDERS & POLK SONGS	Beautiful South
12 (6) WELCOME TO MY WORLD	Daniel O'Donnell
13 (22) FINAL STRAW	Snow Patrol
14 (12) CONFESSIONS	Usher
15 (13) UNWRITTEN	Natasha Bedingfield
16 (15) HOPES AND FEARS	Keane
17 (11) THE DEFINITIVE COLLECTION	Olivia Newton-John
18 (18) CALL OFF THE SEARCH	Katie Melua
19 (9) MIND BODY & SOUL	Joss Stone
20 (-) ON FIRE – LIVE AT THE BOWL	Queen
21 (-) LOVE CHANGES EVERYTHING – THE ESSENTIAL	Michael Ball
22 (7) AROUND THE SUN	REM
23 (-) THE STORY SO FAR – THE VERY BEST OF	Rod Stewart
24 (-) REMIXES 81-04	Depeche Mode
25 (10) MIRACLE	Celine Dion
26 (16) SECOND NATURE	Katherine Jenkins
27 (19) THE BEST OF	Groove Armada
28 (21) KASABIAN	Kasabian
29 (14) BAT OUT OF HELL – LIVE	Meat Loaf
30 (34) FRANZ FERDINAND	Franz Ferdinand
31 (27) ANASTACIA	Anastacia
32 (26) OUT OF NOTHING	Embrace
33 (29) WHO KILLED THE ZUTONS	Zutons
34 (-) DEAR HEATHER	Leonard Cohen
35 (30) THE BEST OF	Talking Heads
36 (-) LIVE TWICE	Darius
37 (33) UNDER MY SKIN	Avril Lavigne
38 (23) TOM JONES & JOOLS HOLLAND	Tom Jones & Jools Holland
39 (36) GREATEST HITS	Goldie Lookin' Chain
40 (28) UP ALL NIGHT	Razorlight

THE OK! CELEBRITY CHART

1) THE MCFADDENS: Brian and Kerry's marriage split takes on more plot twists than a soap.

2) BILLIE PIPER AND CHRIS EVANS: The oddest couple in showbiz are said to be giving their marriage another go.

3) SURANNE JONES: Corrie beauty Suranne, who plays feisty Karen McDonald, scoops the coveted best actress gong at the National TV Awards.

4) SAM ASTON: At just 11, Sam – aka Chesney Brown – becomes the youngest ever winner of a National TV award, bagging the newcomer gong.

5) MATT LUCAS AND DAVID WALLIAMS: The brilliant Little Britain duo get recognition and win the best comedy honours.



LAUGHS: David Walliams

6) KYLIE MINOGUE: Ex-lover James Gooding is poised to spill the beans on the Aussie babe in I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here!

7) VICTORIA BECKHAM: Posh goes into overdrive to promote her new clothing range and reveals she's set to buy a new Chelsea home with David.

8) ROBBIE WILLIAMS: From now on he'll be entertaining in his new Sussex manor.

9) SIMON COWELL: Mr Nasty meets his match in X Factor judges Sharon Osbourne and Louis Walsh.

10) CAROL VORDERMAN: Carol is the second celeb to be booted out of Strictly Come Dancing.

TOP 40 SINGLES



1 (-) WONDERFUL	Ja Rule ft R Kelly
2 (1) CALL ON ME	Eric Prydz
3 (-) NOTHING HURTS LIKE LOVE	Daniel Bedingfield
4 (-) STOLEN	Jay Sean
5 (4) MY NECK MY BACK (LICK IT)	Khia
6 (3) MILLIONAIRE	Kelis
7 (-) YOU WON'T FORGET ABOUT ME	Dannii Minogue vs Flower Power
8 (5) I BELIEVE MY HEART	Duncan James
9 (-) WHAT BECAME OF THE LIKELY LADS	Libertines
10 (6) HAPPY PEOPLE	R Kelly
11 (-) PUMP IT UP	Danzel
12 (-) LOCK UP YA DAUGHTERS	Noise Next Door
13 (10) FLASHDANCE	Deep Dish
14 (-) YOUR MOTHER'S GOT A PENIS	Goldie Lookin' Chain
15 (7) ENJOY THE SILENCE 04	Depeche Mode
16 (-) THE BUCKET	Kings of Leon
17 (9) RADIO	Robbie Williams
18 (12) COME GET SOME	Rooster
19 (-) FREAKIN' OUT	Graham Coxon
20 (11) MORE MORE MORE	Rachel Stevens
21 (13) DO YOU KNOW (I GO CRAZY)	Angel City
22 (2) THE LOVE OF RICHARD NIXON	Manic Street Preachers
23 (22) PIECES OF ME	Ashlee Simpson
24 (8) KINDA LOVE	Darius
25 (-) OPEN ARMS	Tina Turner
26 (-) HELICOPTER	Bloc Party
27 (16) AFRODISIAC	Brandy
28 (17) WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF	
29 (14) SUNSHINE	Lucie Silvas
30 (23) WHATEVER U WANT	Lil' Flip
31 (24) FREE	Estelle
32 (29) BIRTHDAY CAKES	3 Of A Kind
33 (21) KISS ON THE LIPS	Duolers
34 (32) LOVE MACHINE	Girls Aloud
35 (25) MARY	Scissor Sisters
36 (-) STAN BOWLES	Others
37 (19) DROP THE PRESSURE	Mylo
38 (37) PREDICTABLE	Good Charlotte
39 (-) HOW TO BE DEAD	Snow Patrol
40 (15) DON'T EVER THINK (TOO MUCH)	Zutons

JOE MOTT'S hot

Edited by KIM DAWSON



Now that's Cheeky

THE Cheeky Girls have gone a bit slutty – and it suits them.

What would Mama Cheeky think about Monica and Gabriela (left) donning fishnet stockings and silky skimpies at their 23rd birthday

party? The twins took to the Kremlin stage at in Belfast on Saturday, ahead of their Halloween birthday.

Yes, they're from Transylvania and were born on Halloween. Scary. But in those outfits, you still would.

THE Noise Next Door are the first triplets to score a Top 15 hit. Ed, Craig and Scott Sutton, 18, saw debut single Lock Up Your Daughters chart at No.12 yesterday. An Insider said: "After not spending a penny on advertising we're very happy with the result."

GIRLIES SET TO MC-FLY

BUSTED's management are hoping to recreate the success they've had with **McFly** by launching a group of teen rock girls.

I can reveal that Prestige are grooming girls as young as 14 with guitars and drums to try to rival all-singing and dancing girl groups like the **Sugababes**.

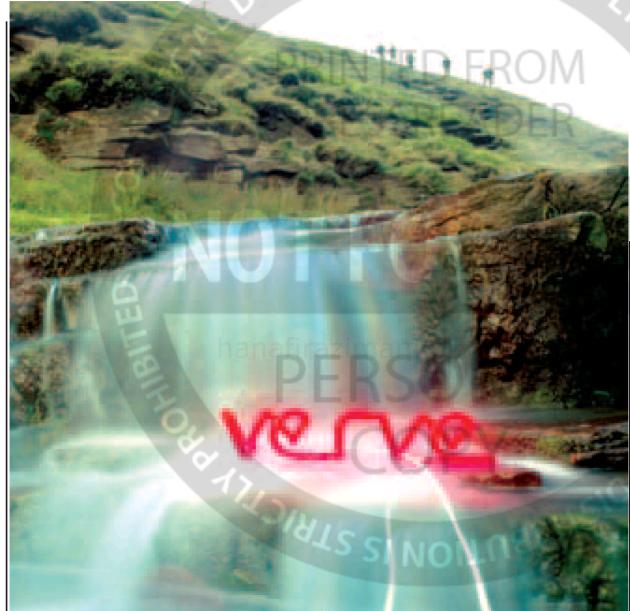
A source told me: "A lot of time and money is being spent on the group, who will play their own instruments like McFly and Busted do."

"There is a real gap in the market for that kind of band and the team is confident they can be a success."

I'm told the girlies will release songs under the name **Lovebugs**. Erm, lovely.

SCISSOR Sisters Jake Shears began a rendition of The Time Warp at a function with Rocky Horror show creator **Richard O'Brien** for Manchester's Wallness Children's Charity. Well, if you will Take Your Mama Out on a Saturday night...

hot@dailystar.co.uk Or simply text: DSHOT to 61616

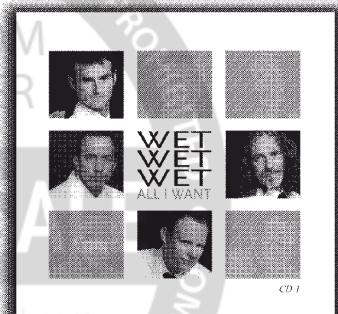


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OUT TODAY

WET WET WET - ALL I WANT

This is the first release from Wet Wet Wet, after a six year break. All I Want is one of the new tracks from their forthcoming Greatest Hits album. Available on 2xCDs, both formats feature extra tracks whilst the maxi CD also includes Goodnight Girl live in Newcastle.

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CAGE THE KILLERS

Road death crackdown

KILLER drivers could soon face more years behind bars.

Causing death or serious injury in road crashes should be treated as sternly as manslaughter or grievous bodily harm, say influential MPs.

Members of the Commons transport committee are demanding longer prison terms and higher fines.

They also want more breath-testing, tougher police enforcement of speed limits and the introduction of a completely new offence – causing death or injury by negligent driving.

The penalty for committing this would

■ by IMOGEN LILLYWHITE

a higher maximum jail sentence than can be passed under present laws.

A report from the committee says: "Where death or injury is involved, it appears that police and prosecutors take a more lenient view of drivers' behaviour than does the general public."

Belt

Drivers found guilty of causing death by dangerous driving currently face a maximum prison sentence of 14 years.

Those who cause injury to another road user can be sentenced to two years and those found guilty of careless driving face a maximum fine of £2,500.

Meanwhile, the Government is backing a "Belt Up" campaign – for pets.

Animal charities want owners to instal dog seatbelts – which fasten round the back and front legs – or pet carriers which can be securely fastened to seats.

These would protect the animals themselves and stop them causing injury to human passengers in the event of a crash.

£1.6bn school run

THE daily school run costs British parents £1.66 billion a year, it has been revealed.

The figure includes the cost of fuel, crashes and parking and speeding fines.

But an additional £90.4 million is spent on

repairing crash damage caused on a school run.

The findings from financial firm Egg also show four million families drive their kids to and from school at an annual cost of more than £400 each – most of which is spent on fuel.

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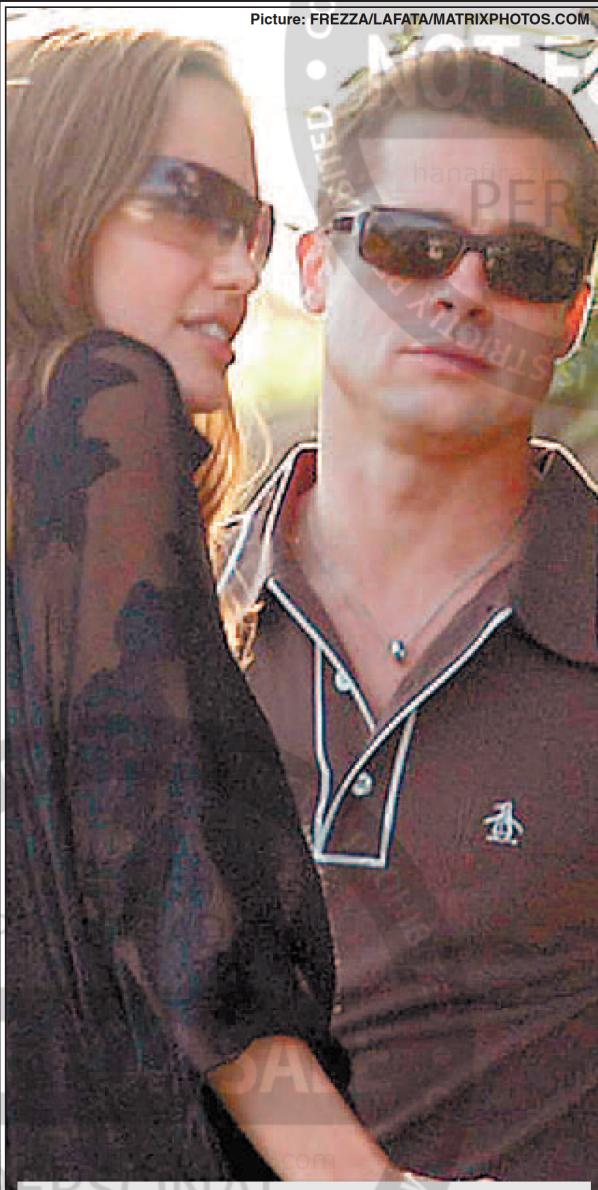
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Brad's in the dark

HOLLYWOOD hunk Brad Pitt was looking shady as he shared an intimate moment with screen siren Angelina Jolie in Italy at the weekend. But wife Jennifer Aniston needn't worry – the pair are making the movie Mr & Mrs Smith. Jolie, 29, and Pitt, 40, play married assassins hired to kill each other.

Peel's final gift

■ by PAUL MALLEY

JOHN Peel's vast record collection is set to be given to the nation – just as he wanted.

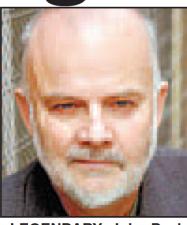
The legendary disc jockey amassed an unrivalled array of vinyl, CDs and tapes from around the world before dying from a heart attack in Peru last week, aged 65.

Peel's manager, Clive Selwood, confirmed that the broadcaster had held talks about leaving them

with the British Library. He said yesterday: "The idea certainly had favour with him."

"We'll just have to see what happens."

Radio 1 DJ Peel was one of the most influential figures in music over the past four decades and helped launch bands including Led Zeppelin, The Smiths and Nirvana.



LEGENDARY: John Peel



SHOCKED: Zeta-Jones

Zeta's house horror

CATHERINE Zeta-Jones is in shock over plans for a huge housing estate next to her £1.5million mansion.

Developers Taylor Woodrow want to build 42 houses near the star's new home in the Welsh seaside village of Mumbles.

Oscar-winner Catherine, 34, and husband Michael Douglas, 60, had the mansion built in her hometown near Swansea for when they visit with their children Dylan, four, and one-year-old Carys.

Target

Now the star's privacy could be wrecked by a development on a caravan park overlooking Limeside Bay a few hundred yards away.

Plans for the estate on the council-owned site were recommended for approval last week.

A spokesman for the developers said: "We can't give more details about the site before approval."

Catherine was the target of a kidnap attempt while filming The Legend of Zorro in Mexico.

She has also been at the centre of a US court case after Dawnette Knight was accused of threatening to kill her.

ASDA has cooked up the Fiery Fergie Flinger and Wenger Wanger pizzas after the food fight between Manchester United and Arsenal. Old Trafford boss Alex Ferguson was hit by a pizza in the tunnel after his side beat Arsene's team 2-0.

Lads love X games

COMPUTER games that show sex and violence are being bought by boys as young as 12, research has revealed.

More than two thirds of youngsters aged between 11 and 14 revealed they had played games with an 18-plus certificate.

Boys aged 13 to 14 were the most likely to have played the games, according to the study by ITV1's Tonight With Trevor McDonald.

The Grand Theft Auto series, which includes sex and violence, was one of the most popular games with lads.

And Manhunt had been played by more than 20% of 13 to 14-year-olds.

DOING A BOMB

A VULCAN bomber has been put on Internet auction site ebay for £6,000 by plane buff Brian Bateson, from Blackpool, Lancs.

STAR NEWS



Heidi 'n shriek

SUPERMODEL
Heidi Klum still looks great, despite gearing up in fangs and a scarlet witch outfit for a Hallowe'en bash in New York. But by the looks of things, the German babe has still managed to scare someone out of their skin...

Picture: MARION CURRIS / REX FEATURES

A promotional image for the "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" DVD collection. It features the main cast: Willow (Alyson Hannigan), Xander (Nicholas Brendon), Willow (Kristen Bell), and Spike (Edgar Ramírez). In the background, there are several DVD covers for different episodes, including "Cordelia", "Dawn", "Quiles", and "Xander". The text "NOT FOR SALE" and "PRINTED FROM PRESSREADER" are overlaid on the image.

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OI! JUDE'S ALFIE IS A TOP TURKEY



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CLASSIC: Michael Caine and Shelley Winters in original Alfie and, right, Jude Law in the remake



**A lot of people
know that you
just can't beat
Michael Caine**

ALFIE has been voted one of the worst film remakes of all time.

Critics have panned Jude Law's performance in the role made famous by Sir Michael Caine.

And film fans agree the updated version is not a patch on the 1966 original.

Alfie was sixth in a worst remakes poll.

Top of the flops was another movie which originally starred Michael Caine, Get Carter was rehashed with Sylvester Stallone in the lead role.

It relocated the action from Sixties Newcastle to modern-day Seattle - with disastrous

■ by ELIZABETH JAMES

results. Critics called it "pointless" - "useless" and an "incoherent mess".

Alex Chesterman, the founder of DVD rental firm ScreenSelect.co.uk, which carried out the poll, said: "This is an indication that remakes can't compare with films which were classics of their time.

Thriller

"It also proves you just can't beat Michael Caine."

Second was Gus Van Sant's attempt to remake the Alfred Hitchcock horror Psycho for a new audience.

This year's Thunderbirds

movie was third, followed by Bridget Fonda thriller The Assassin - a remake of the cult film Nikita.

Charlie's Angels, starring Cameron Diaz, was fifth.

And new versions of Planet Of The Apes, Starsky And Hutch and Cape Fear also made the top 10.

In 10th was Ocean's Eleven, with audiences obviously preferring the Frank Sinatra original to the update starring George Clooney and Brad Pitt.

Mr Chesterman added: "Time after time, remakes fail to sparkle like the originals.

"The rehashed productions trade off fond memories of much-loved films."

TOP TEN TURKEYS

- 1 Get Carter
- 2 Psycho
- 3 Thunderbirds
- 4 The Assassin
- 5 Charlie's Angels
- 6 Alfie
- 7 Planet Of The Apes
- 8 Starsky And Hutch
- 9 Cape Fear
- 10 Ocean's Eleven

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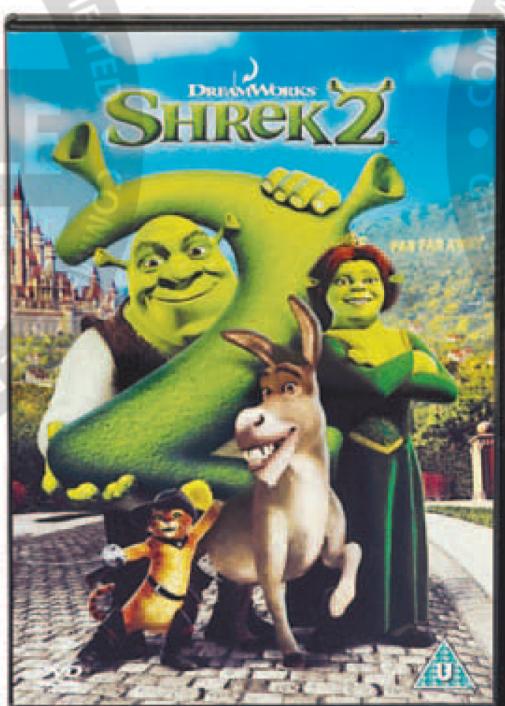
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MAKE YOUR "ONE DAY" TODAY WITH THE ONE ACCOUNT



The One account helped Annette and Brian's "One Day" dreams come true today

Childhood sweethearts Annette and Brian Ashdown made their cash stretch much further, after switching their mortgage to the One account.

The couple have used the *One* account to splash out on family holidays in Spain and Turkey and install a new bathroom and kitchen. It has even helped them put down a deposit on a new car. "It's amazing, the *One* account has really made our lives so much easier," Annette, 46, says.

The couple decided to switch mortgage after 10 years with a high street lender. "During this time we hardly reduced our mortgage, which was really frustrating. It was time for a change."

Then she heard about the benefits

of the *One* account.

The *One* account is a mortgage and bank account rolled into one. It allows homeowners to borrow cash against the value of their home up to pre-agreed limits, and repay it when it suits them. As long as you keep within your agreed borrowing limit and pay the account off by retirement, you can pay more some months and less in others. Any extra cash you use to reduce your mortgage can be borrowed back at a later date, for whatever reason.

Annette says the *One* account sounded too good to be true. "I kept asking myself, what's the catch? Eventually I rang them up, and discovered there wasn't a catch, you just have to budget carefully."

The couple pay all their income into the *One* account, including child benefit and Annette's salary from her job as an IT support analyst. This reduces the outstanding balance and with the interest calculated daily this means they pay less interest on their mortgage. Savings made by financial planning meant they have funded two family holidays in Turkey, one in Spain and one in Cyprus.

And the spending didn't stop there. Annette and Brian have fitted a new bathroom and rebuilt their kitchen. "We also used our *One* account to put down a deposit on a Honda Civic. We had the cash immediately, which meant we could negotiate 0% finance on the

rest of the car," she says. The *One* account recently helped them face up to a far greater challenge, when Brian lost his eyesight. "We were a fit and healthy young couple and never worried about insurance, thinking it wouldn't happen to us. But it did happen, and the *One* account helped cushion the financial blow by giving us the freedom to borrow back earlier overpayments," Annette says.

This gave them a source of emergency cash at a difficult time. Annette and Brian have two sons, Derek, 20, and Ian, 16. "Derek is now at university and the *One* account is helping us support him. It really has helped our family through everything over the past five years," she says.

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No matter what you use the money for, everything you borrow is charged at the same low mortgage rate. You can transfer any existing expensive debt, instantly cutting your monthly interest bill. However this will mean an increase in the total amount secured on your home which may mean an increase in repayments or an extension of the term depending on how you use the account.

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SWITCHED-ON TELLY CRITIC

Shame on the luvvies

TO the National TV Awards (Tuesday, ITV1), where the death earlier in the day of broadcasting legend John Peel was marked by... absolutely nothing.

I wouldn't expect Sir Trevor McDonald (half-man, half-autocue) to depart "There's no reason for a Christmas tree, but I like having one."

Richard Madeley unexpectedly changes direction discussing 4x4s on *Richard & Judy*.

least have stuck a caption saying something like "in memory of John Peel" at the end?

Anyway, congratulations to little Sam Aston (Chesney in Coronation Street) for deservedly winning best newcomer award, in the face of heavyweight competition from Honeysuckle Weeks, Tracy-Ann Oberman and Patsy Kensit (best newcomer, 15 years ago).

To everyone from

The Bill (voted most popular drama), which was mysteriously plucked out of the serial drama or soap category, thereby giving Coronation Street virtually a free shot at the title.

And not least, to Jonny Wilkinson (and his shirt-makers) for clinching a brand new award, to be known now and henceforth as Most Popular Sporting Moment Not Shown On BBC1, Channel 4 Or Sky.

(Memo to Chancellor Gordon Brown, who banged on about how the Rugby World Cup victory made everyone proud of Britain: England, Gordon, England.)

Such as thanking the firm of shirt-makers who sponsor Jonny Wilkinson "for helping Jonny to be here tonight".

But a few words of tribute to a fellow DJ who helped to shape the musical tastes of four generations would not have come amiss from Chris Tarrant – after he'd finished vaingloriously boasting about the utter brilliance of Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?

Couldn't the producers at

PRODUCER Liza Tarbuck on *French And Saunders* (Friday, BBC1): "What people want is you titting about in a dog collar, and you falling over and showing your pants." Or to put it another way, being funny.



POINT TAKEN:
Even James Gandolfini and Steve Buscemi get pushed round the schedules in *The Sopranos*

■ TV scheduling – is it an art, a science, or do they just stick pins in a board, blindfolded?

ITV1 bows to pleas from critics and viewers to move Harry Hill's *TV Burp* from its

nonsensical late-night slot...and screens the new series at Saturday teatime.

Channel 4 pads its Monday night line-up with repeats of *Without A Trace* and *Father Ted* that push *The Sopranos*

back to around midnight. And E4 moves this Thursday's final episode of *Curb Your Enthusiasm* – simply the best US sitcom since *Seinfeld* – to 12.10am the next day. Madness!

CHANGER OF THE WEEK

■ STEVE Mullington of Rochdale was among dozens of readers who noticed Dev's red spot, or Bhindi, go from the middle of his forehead to the top of his nose and back again during his marriage to Sunita in Monday's *Coronation Street*.

You too could win £50 by sending any gaffes you (ahem) spot to TV Changers, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN.

Use a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope, fax to 0871 4347921 or e-mail charlie.catchpole@dailystar.co.uk

Sunita cops it

SOAP weddings rarely go smoothly. But *Coronation Street*'s Sunita Parekh set a new record that's surely unbeatable, dragged out of the ceremony by the police and accused of bigamously marrying four, six or seven husbands (depending on which copper was talking at the time).

Janice was sympathetic: "Poor cow. She asked for summertime and flaming rozzers turn up!"

Karen cried: "It was just like an episode of *The Bill*!"

Not really, love. No one was kidnapped, raped or shot

Waste of a killer idea...

HERE'S the deal. You have to dream up a new drama about murder squad detectives – and it's got to be different. Really different.

Nothing like Morse, Taggart, Rebus, Prime Suspect, Waking The Dead, Cracker, Silent Witness, Midsomer Murders, The Inspector Lynley Mysteries, Messiah or Trial And Retribution.

Something that's never been tried before. Um, how about setting it in the past?

No. Been done. Cadfael, Foyle's

War. Oh damn. Hang on a minute. Got it!

How about if no one is murdered? Instead of setting out to pin some gruesome killing on one of the usual suspects, the cops try to STOP a murder before it happens?

Brilliant! Let's give it a go.

And so we have *Murder Prevention* (Five), which is all about a special police unit that keeps suspected killers under surveillance and attempts to nab them in the nick of time.

Ten out of ten for the idea. But not too many marks for the execution, if you'll pardon the expression.

This is made in Britain, but some-

one has obviously been watching too

many of those US crime series that Five has snapped up lately – like Law And Order, The Shield and CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.

It's all swooping, hand-held camerawork and dizzying jump cuts.

Maverick

The characters are tissue paper-thin – a shouty boss in a sharp suit, a scruffy maverick who (yes, you've guessed) bends the rules, a feisty babe who looks about 15, a wet-behind-the-ears new boy who went to university and is hot on psychological profiling, and so on.

Inevitably, it's filmed almost completely in the dark.

"Any questions?" asked shouty boss, DCI Patrick Taylor (Conor Mullen), after briefing his team about a sex killer who was poised

– he was pretty sure – to strangle a neighbour while she was jogging.

Yes, guy. Why do we have to work in an old hanger lit by 30-watt bulbs?

Wouldn't the forensics expert have a better chance of unearthing evidence if she could see what she was doing?

SQUARE BASHIN'

YET another sour and hate-filled week in *EastEnders*, where the only light relief was provided by Pauline's puppy Betty doing a whoopsie on the carpet in the Queen Vic,

Spencer giving Jane a written warning over the phone, and the director finally abandoning all attempts to film Kat from the neck up – and hiding her in the bathroom.

Alfie pleaded with her

through the door: "All I wanted to do was get close to you and bury myself..."

This would have been a) physically impossible and b) rather unwise, from a medical point of view.

DAVE'S A DUD

FIFTH Gear presenter Vicki Butler-Henderson hilariously hoodwinked her own brother into believing that she was a bald-headed "gor blimey" bloke called Bill Stevens in *Gender Swap* (Five).

But attempts by David Dickinson to pass himself off as Greek-born socialite Maria Vanderbilt stalled the moment he opened his mouth.

It was his enormous ego that blew his cover. He couldn't resist dropping the name of, er, David Dickinson into conversations with people he tried to fool.

And he also kept slipping into the voice of, um, David Dickinson.

His pained expression with stylist Michael Shapell suggested it wouldn't be long before he said something like: "I've got nothing against gays, but..."

Then we saw him telling his video diary: "I'm not homophobic, but...he was a bit too much of a big girl for me."

Michael flounced off the show. A shame,

because I was begin-

ning to enjoy *Queer Eye*

For The Orange Guy.

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Cilla's in at the deep end

HERE'S the moment Corrie slapper Cilla gets her plumber in a whirl when he comes to fit her new spa bath. Bedhopping single mum Cilla (Wendi Peters, 36), who's not content with clueless Les Battersby (Bruce Jones, 51), will take a fancy to the randy tradesman, played by 52-year-old Full Monty star Paul Barber. But a soap mole warned: "Cilla is playing with fire. Les will go ape if he finds out – and it won't just be the plumber he chins."

BETH'S PERVERY POST

THE Bill babe Beth Cordingly has to have her mail vetted to avoid dodgy messages from perverted fans.

Blonde Beth, 26, who played PC Kerry Young in the hit ITV1 soap, saw her character killed off earlier last month when she was gunned down by a serial sniper.

Beth, who is dating former Neighbours star Daniel MacPherson, has won an army of fans since joining The Bill more than two years ago. But she has revealed

some have gone a bit too far. The star said: "I get my mail vetted because I'd rather not read the dodgy stuff."

"Some things do get through, though, like guys saying: 'I want to do such and such to you' or 'I think you have nice tits.'"

But Beth says those are not her best assets.

She said: "I get compliments because I have a Latino, sticky-out bum. I also quite like my eyes."

SOAPER STAR

STEPH IN A CHASE TO DEATH

Emmerdale cliff-hanger

WICKED Emmerdale schemer Stephanie Stokes looks set for a grisly *Thelma And Louise* style farewell.

Her cruel bid to rip off her dear old dad Alan Turner will be exposed.

She will be seen racing towards a cliff edge with her father in the car as police and villagers close in.

And it will look like she's preparing to take herself and her pa to a certain death.

The scenes echo the acclaimed 1991 movie *Thelma And Louise*, in which two women go on the run after killing a rapist and deliberately take their car over a cliff edge in a gripping finale.

But in the dramatic Emmerdale scenes, Steph (right) stops the car and gets out, leaving Alan safe.

Burglary

And she walks towards the cliff edge to end it all.

A series insider confirmed last night: "We're not spoiling the story.

line by what happens to Stephanie.

"Viewers will just have to tune in to find out. It's one of our most gripping storylines for years."

Steph (Lorraine Chase) will be exposed by village delinquent Daz Hopwood.

The half-brother of farmer Andy Sugden will be casing the B&B for a burglary when he sees Steph leave the building.

Daz (Luke Tittensor) breaks in to find roly-poly Alan (Richard Thorp) in a terr-



■ by EMILY ROSE

ble state. The soap mole revealed: "Alan will plead with Daz to help him and he'll tell the shocked lad that Steph has harmed his girlfriend Shelly and has been drugging him."

But in nail-biting scenes that follow, viewers will see Steph force her dad to sign over his business and all his possessions to her – because he won't need anything "where he's going".

Then she will make her final preparations to kill him.

Plotting

But young Daz confronts her in the cafe and accuses her of plotting to murder her doped-up pa.

Vicar Ashley Thomas and vet's wife Emily witness the bust-up and offer to mediate by visiting Alan. But Steph refuses to give them access.

Daz takes matters into his own hands by attempting to rescue Alan. But Steph catches him and flings him in the cellar.

But he escapes – and this time Alan's friends will decide to act.

The soap source revealed: "Daz will rush to Emily for help and as he blurts out his latest story, they'll see Steph manhandle a frazzled Alan into her car."

Within minutes Paddy and Emily Kirk along with young Daz are pursuing Steph down the country lanes – and the police are not far behind them."



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Square deal for Conley



GANGSTER ROLE: Conley

FUNNYMAN Brian Conley is being lined up for a role in EastEnders – to save his career like pal Shane Richie.

Conley is set to make a dramatic entrance as a Cockney gangster if BBC bosses get their way.

Shane has helped to boost the show's flagging ratings – and now EastEnders chiefs think Conley could do the same.

And just like Richie, 43-year-old Conley needs the new role to kick-start his flagging career.

Richie's role as ex-con Alfie Moon has propelled him from the entertainment graveyard to a national treasure in just three years.

The 40-year-old former Redcoat's

career was in such a state he had to sell his £2million home to pay off debts.

But since playing Alfie he won the best actor gong at last year's National TV Awards.

Now under-fire EastEnders bosses hope all singing, all dancing, Conley can pull off another ratings revival.

Conley entertained the nation in hit shows like *The Grimleys* and *Time After Time* and won awards for his West End musical *Joinson*.

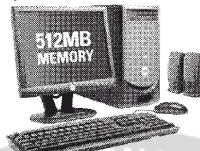
But he hasn't been seen on telly since his ITV gameshow *Judgement Day*, a ratings flop, was axed last summer.

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Cole sweeps our glitz girl off her feet

STRICTLY no sequins!

WITH his new DVD out this week, we challenged Strictly Come Dancing's Brendan Cole to show Daily Star writer VICKY LISSAMAN some of his fancy footwork. But she hadn't banked on treading on the toes of a dancefloor diva...

STRICTLY Come Dancing? It was more like strictly no sequins! After watching newsgirl Natasha Kaplinsky and her partner Brendan Cole sizzle on the hit Saturday night show, I jumped at the chance to have a ballroom lesson with the maestro himself.

With rumours rife that Natasha had fallen for Brendan's flirty dancing techniques behind the scenes, I was expecting to be swept off my feet by Mr Twinkle Toes and his raunchy routines.

I didn't want to let him down. He is used to having very glamorous partners and I've got two left feet. I figured, the least I could do was look the part.

I hired myself a dazzling ballroom gown, stilettos, long evening gloves, the lot. Surely he'd be impressed?

But within minutes my romantic dream had fallen on its feet.

Brendan took one look at me in my spangly get-up and bawled: "You're taking the piss!"

"What? Me? No!" I spluttered, turning beetroot.

Try as I might to reason with him, there was no getting through to the dancing diva.

He turned on his slipper and stormed out in a hissy fit, ranting under his breath as he went.

So there I was, looking like a prize turkey – in my net ballet skirt and revealing black and red sequined basque – at a complete loss about what old Brendan was banging on about.

I thought the whole idea of ballroom was to get dolled up in a glitzy frock and be whirled around by a handsome bloke, gazing lovingly into each other's eyes.

Not in this case.

After 20 minutes wondering whether I should tell Brendan where to stick his sequins, or to grin and go along with his tangoing twaddle, I decided to retake.

Even though he'd acted like a ballroom berk, I was still desperate to see him cha cha. So off came the sparkles and on went my boring black workwear.

The 28-year-old New Zealander smiled when he saw me. "I've been ripped to shreds all my life about being a ballroom dancer, because everyone thinks it's really cheesy."

"But doing Strictly Come Dancing has been a way of dispelling these myths – that it's not all fake tan, fake smiles and old-fashioned outfits like that."

"If you see the sort of dresses that Sarah Manners, my current dance partner on the show, wears, they're much younger and funkier."

Fair enough, I thought, rolling my eyes. Couldn't we just get on with the dancing now?

Back in Brendan's good

By VICKY LISSAMAN

books again, the mood lifted. He turned on the charm and suddenly I felt like I was in a scene from the hit dance flick, *Dirty Dancing*.

Brendan was playing the part of Patrick Swayze, the experienced show dancer teaching me, the novice, gawky girl, how to become a diva on the dancefloor.

And seizing me by the waist and pulling me in close, he said: "Dancing is all about passion.

"You've got to feel the music and let it flow through your body."

"Blimey!" I thought, my heart going 10 to the dozen. If Natasha Kaplinsky didn't fall for his sizzling charms like she says, I don't know how she resisted.

I was rapidly warming to Brendan's fiery character. Perhaps it wasn't going to be murder on the dancefloor after all.

From that moment on, he threw me around the room, caught me as I was about land on my backside and smiled tolerantly when I accidentally spikied him with my stiletto.

So was there a happy ending? And did I have the time of my life with the Gordon Ramsay of the dance world?

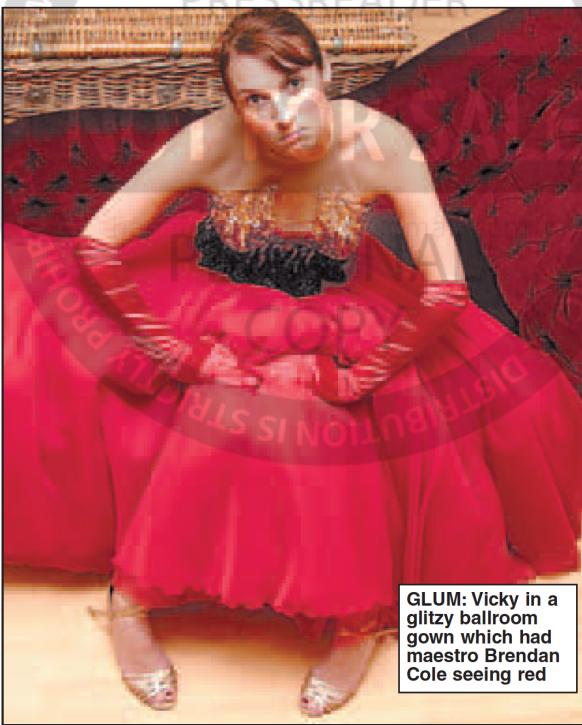
Like all classic dance films, we had the shaky start – the dancing partners' tiff. But in the end the moves took over and we were doing the pasadoble like a pair of old pros.

If you fancy having your own lesson with Brendan, he and Natasha release their DVD, *It's Strictly Dancin'*, today. It's £12.99 on VHS and £17.99 for the DVD.

You can follow in the footsteps of quick-stepping pair as they teach and perform ballroom and Latin American routines.

No dress code required!

FIERY: Brendan gets to grips with Vicky and, above right, with Sarah Manners



GLUM: Vicky in a glitzy ballroom gown which had maestro Brendan Cole seeing red



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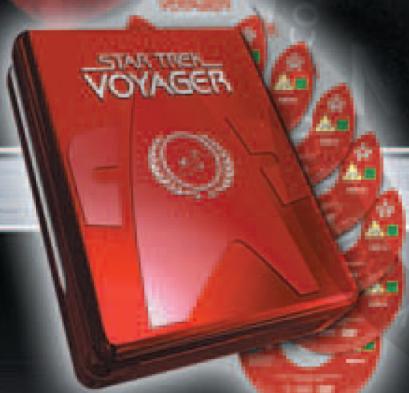
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IT'S CHEAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

Hunt for gang of killers



■ by PAUL MALLEY
SUPERMARKETS have been accused of conning punters by using cheap tricks to make food look more tasty.

They go to amazing lengths to spice up photos on packaging, including:

- Using wood glue instead of milk on cereal as it doesn't turn the food to mush.
- Pouring methylated

Food photos con punters

spirits instead of brandy on Christmas pudding as it gives it a much stronger flame for the camera.

• Giving champagne an extra fizz by adding aspirin powder.

A report by Which? said punters feel cheated when they take the product from

the oven and compare it to the photo on the packaging. One photographer revealed a trick to make lasagne look more appealing.

He said: "Lasagne is a real pain to shoot normally – it just collapses. But one way round it is to build up layers using foam

board about 5mm thick, cut slightly smaller than the layers of pasta.

"Then you pipe in the meat and bechamel sauce around the edges."

A spokesman for Tesco denied props were used to make their products appear more appetising.

But one food photography expert said:

"The most ethical retailers will insist we use the proper ingredients, but this is the exception rather than the rule."

ONE man was killed and four others injured in a series of motiveless random attacks by a gang.

David Morley, 37, died in hospital from his injuries and a 29-year-old man suffered minor injuries.

They were attacked at Hungerford Bridge on London's South Bank in the early hours of Saturday.

Police are linking the killing with two more attacks minutes earlier between Hungerford Bridge and Westminster Bridge which left three men hurt.



Charlotte belts up

VOICE Of An Angel star Charlotte Church took a day off from belting out the ballads and belted up for a family lunch in Cardiff.

The 18-year-old diva chose an outfit of sombre autumn colours. But hip-hugging studs and THAT cleavage made sure she stayed firmly in the spotlight.

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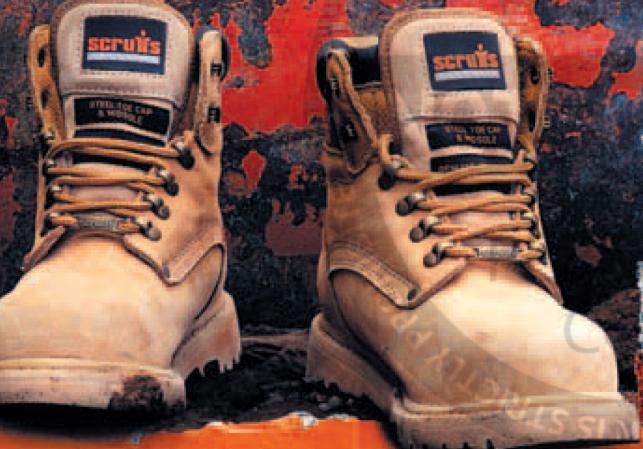

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